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LETTER DATED 15 APRIL 1996 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF CAMEROON TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit the letter addressed to you from the President of the Republic of Cameroon, Mr. Paul Biya, in connection with order No. 94 issued by the International Court of Justice on 15 March 1996 concerning the border dispute between Cameroon and Nigeria.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Moussa ALIOU
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Letter dated 12 April 1996 from the President of the Republic of Cameroon addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have learned with interest of the protective measures which, at Cameroon's request, the International Court of Justice recently decreed in connection with the dispute between my country and Nigeria regarding the Bakassi peninsula.

In this connection, I should like to assure you that Cameroon fully supports all these measures. It is in this spirit that my country confirms its determination to refrain, except in self-defence, from any act that might aggravate the dispute or prejudice the ultimate decision by the Court.

I should also like to reiterate to you my country's commitment to respect the cease-fire agreed by the two parties on 17 February 1996 under the agreements reached in Kara (Togo).

For Cameroon, the return of the forces to the positions held prior to the submission of the case to the Court is the only way to ensure peace and security in the region until the Court hands down its final decision. It is in this spirit that we endorse the protective measure decreed by the International Court of Justice in this regard.

As I told your predecessor, Cameroon welcomes the prompt dispatching of a fact-finding mission to Bakassi by the Secretary-General. We wish to assure the mission in advance that we shall provide our full cooperation and any assistance necessary for the successful completion of its mandate.

In this connection, Cameroon would like you to entrust the mission with, inter alia, the task of informing the Court on the following points:

- The situation of the subsequent military positions of each of the parties since the Court was seized of the matter;
- The general state of the locality as a result of the armed incidents;
- Construction of any type being undertaken by Nigeria on the Bakassi peninsula;
- Nigeria's intentions regarding Cameroonian investments in the area;
- The presence of administrative services on the Bakassi peninsula and the entity to which they belong;
- The number of oil deposits, their ownership and the extent of their exploitation.

(Signed) Paul BIYA